

A NEW SPECIES OF CESTRUM (SOLANACEAE) FROM  
SOUTHERN COLOMBIA

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DURING A BRIEF VISIT to the National Herbarium of Colombia, Bogotá, my attention was drawn by the curious morphology of an unnamed collection of *Cestrum*. After a thorough analysis of its peculiarities, I have come to the conclusion that it represents an undescribed species. Its essential characteristics are noted in the following description.

*Cestrum morae*<sup>1</sup> A. Hunziker, sp. nov.

FIGURE 1.

Arbor cauliflorus 5 m. altus. Folia magna, glaberrima, manifeste petiolata; laminae ellipticae vel oblongo-ellipticae ad apicem acuminatae vel breviter cuspidatae, basi ± obtusiusculae, 30–34 cm. longae et 19.3–19.8 cm. latae, nervo mediano supra tenui impresso subtus valde prominente, nervis lateralibus utrinque ca. 20 adscendentibus supra impressis subtus valde eminentibus et nervis secundariis numerosis, utrinque bene conspicuis dense reticulatis; petioli suberosi 4–4.7 cm. longi. Inflorescentiae laxae 20–28 florum; axes glabri 14.5–26 cm. longi, fertiles in tertia vel octava parte distali; bractae lineares, angustae, (6.5–)11–15(–18) mm. longae, (0.25–)0.5–0.6(–1) mm. latae. Calyx 4.5–5.8 mm. longus et ca. 2 mm. latus, extus pilis minutissimis argentatis praeditus. Corolla extus glabra, alba, 37–39 mm. longa; tubus 31–32 mm. longus; lobi 6–7 mm. longi. Stamina aequalia ca. 30 mm. longae; filamenta ad ca.  $\frac{4}{5}$  longitudine tubo adnata (24–25 mm.), 4–7 mm. longe libera, ad insertionem non dentata et non gibbosa, valde pilosa; pars adnata superne dense pilosa, ceterum parcissime puberula; antherae parvae, orbiculatae, ca. 0.6–0.7 mm. longae. Ovarium diminutum, depressum, glabrum, ca. 0.5 mm. longum et ca. 1 mm. latum, stipite (ca. 0.8 mm. altus) brevior; stylus filiformis ca. 28–29 mm. longus, apice minutissime pubescens, stamina superans; stigma exsertum. Baccae non suppetunt.

TYPE COLLECTION. Colombia, Dpto. Nariño, Municipio de Altaquer, entre Junin y Buenavista, 700 m. alt., *L. E. Mora* 4278, 21 Nov. 1967 (COL 113604, two leaves and one inflorescence; COL 113605, two inflorescences).

OBSERVATIONS. A distinctive species, unique in its cauliflory, with inflorescence axes 14.5–26 cm. long. Its large leaves and long corollas (to almost 4 cm.) are two additional features not frequently encountered in the genus.

<sup>1</sup>The specific epithet honors the collector of the only specimen known up to this time, Professor Luis Eduardo Mora, presently Director of the Botany Department, Instituto de Ciencias Naturales, Universidad Nacional, Bogotá, Colombia.



FIGURE 1. *Cestrum morae*: A, inflorescence,  $\times 0.73$ ; B, leaf, upper surface,  $\times 0.4$ ; C, flower, longitudinal section,  $\times 2.7$ ; D, gynoecium, basal portion,  $\times 21$ ; E, calyx, articulation with axis,  $\times 7.5$ ; F, flower, upper part,  $\times 4.3$ .

The most closely related species appears to be *Cestrum diversifolium* Francey, from Colombia (Antioquia) and Ecuador;<sup>2</sup> in addition to lacking cauliflory and having comparatively small leaves (less than 5 cm. long), this particular species differs in its somewhat smaller flowers with ovoid ovaries, and in its gibbous filaments that are slightly indented at the point of insertion on the corolla tube.

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<sup>2</sup>Francey, 1935, p. 321.